



# Homeland Security

*Privacy Office, Mail Stop 0655*

August 28, 2019

**SENT VIA E-MAIL TO: foia@americanoversight.org**

Austin Evers  
American Oversight  
1030 15th Street, NW  
Suite B255  
Washington, DC 20005

Re: **2019-HQFO-00835**

Dear Mr. Evers:

This is the final response to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), Privacy Office dated and received by this office on June 10, 2019. You are seeking a copy of the following:

- 1- any memoranda, protocols or other directives from the White House regarding the administration's policy, practice, or approach to responding to requests for documents, testimony, or information from congressional committees, including any policies, practices or approaches for responding to congressional subpoenas; and
- 2- any memoranda, protocols or other directives from your agency's leadership regarding the administration's policy, practice, or approach to responding to requests for documents, testimony, or information from congressional committees, including any policies, practices or approaches for responding to congressional subpoenas.

We conducted a comprehensive search of files within the Department of Homeland Security's Office of the Executive Secretariat (ESEC) and the Office of Legislative Affairs (OLA) for records that would be responsive to your request. Unfortunately, we were unable to locate or identify any responsive records. If there is another program office within DHS that you believe to be in possession of responsive records, please submit another FOIA request to our office identifying the specific program offices and search parameters.

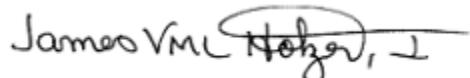
While an adequate search was conducted, you have the right to appeal this determination that no records exist within Department of Homeland Security's Office of the Executive Secretariat (ESEC) and the Office of Legislative Affairs (OLA) that would be responsive to your request. Should you wish to do so, you must send your appeal and a copy of this letter, within 90 days of the date of this letter, to: Privacy Office, Attn: FOIA Appeals, U.S. Department of Homeland Security, 245 Murray Lane, SW, Mail Stop 0655, Washington, D.C. 20528-0655, following the

procedures outlined in the DHS FOIA regulations at 6 C.F.R. Part 5 § 5.8. Your envelope and letter should be marked “FOIA Appeal.” Copies of the FOIA and DHS FOIA regulations are available at [www.dhs.gov/foia](http://www.dhs.gov/foia).

If you need any further assistance or would like to discuss any aspect of your request, please contact the analyst below who processed your request and refer to **2019-HQFO-00835**. You may send an e-mail to [foia@hq.dhs.gov](mailto:foia@hq.dhs.gov), call 202-343-1743 or toll free 1-866-431-0486, or you may contact our FOIA Public Liaison in the same manner. Additionally, you have a right to seek dispute resolution services from the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) which mediates disputes between FOIA requesters and Federal agencies as a non-exclusive alternative to litigation. If you are requesting access to your own records (which is considered a Privacy Act request), you should know that OGIS does not have the authority to handle requests made under the Privacy Act of 1974. You may contact OGIS as follows: Office of Government Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS, College Park, Maryland 20740-6001, e-mail at [ogis@nara.gov](mailto:ogis@nara.gov); telephone at 202-741-5770; toll free at 1-877-684-6448; or facsimile at 202-741-5769.

Provisions of FOIA allow DHS to charge for processing fees, up to \$25, unless you seek a waiver of fees. In this instance, because the cost is below the \$25 minimum, there is no charge.

Sincerely,



James Holzer  
Deputy Chief FOIA Officer